(57) Abstract





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This invention provides a method of treating myotonic dystrophy by administering to a patient a therapeutically effective amount of a thiazolidinedione derivative or a 3H-1,2,3,5-oxathiadiazole-2 oxide derivative.

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## A METHOD OF TREATING MYOTONIC DYSTROPHY

#### FIELD OF THE INVENTION

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The present invention provides a method of treating myotonic dystrophy.

## 10 BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Myotonic dystrophy is the most common form of muscular dystrophy. This disease affects about one person in 8,000 and is a multisystem autosomal-dominant disease, carried on Chromosome 19; that has a wide spectrum of symptoms. In general, the major symptoms of myotonic dystrophy arise from damage to skeletal, cardiac, and smooth muscles. Specific symptoms include, but are not limited to, cataracts, muscle weakness (particularly in the face, forearms, and foot dorsiflexors), myotonia, muscle wasting, respiratory distress, hypotonia, feeding difficulty, talipes, mental retardation, cardiac arrhythmias (such as heart block, conduction disturbance, and atrial tachyarrhythmias) and respiratory disturbances (such as respiratory failure, sleep apnea, and hypersomnia).

The genetic defect that underlies myotonic dystrophy has recently been shown to involve the expansion of CTG repeats in the 3'-untranslated region of a gene that codes for a serine kinase. This gene is located at q13.3 on the long arm of Chromosome 19.

It has also been noticed that persons having myotonic dystrophy exhibit insulin resistance. See, for example, Livingston, et al., "Myotonic Dystrophy: Phenotype-Genotype and Insulin Resistence," Diabetes

Review, 1994;2(1):29-42, which is hereby incorporated by reference.

Thus, it would be useful to have compounds which can be used to treat myotonic dystrophy.

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#### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention provides a method of

treating myotonic dystrophy comprising administering to
a patient having myotonic dystrophy a therapeutically
effective amount of a compound of Formula I

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$$\begin{array}{c}
R^4 \\
R^5 \\
R^7 \\
R^7$$

wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are the same or different and each represents a hydrogen atom or a  $C_1$ - $C_5$  alkyl group;

 $R^3$  represents a hydrogen atom, a  $C_1$ - $C_6$  aliphatic acyl group, an alicyclic acyl group, an aromatic acyl group, a heterocyclic acyl group, an araliphatic acyl group, a  $(C_1$ - $C_6$  alkoxy)carbonyl group, or an aralkyloxycarbonyl group;

 $R^4$  and  $R^5$  are the same or different and each represents a hydrogen atom, a  $C_1$ - $C_5$  alkyl group or a  $C_1$ - $C_5$  alkoxy group, or  $R^4$  and  $R^5$  together represent a  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkylenedioxy group;

n is 1, 2, or 3;

W represents the -CH $_2$ -, CO, or CH-OR $^6$  group (in which R $^6$  represents any 1 of the atoms or groups defined for R $^3$  and may be the same as or different from R $^3$ ); and

Y and Z are the same or different and each represents an oxygen atom or an imino (=NH) group; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

In a preferred embodiment of the method, the compound of Formula I is 5-[[4-[(3,4-dihydro-6-hydroxy-2,5,7,8-tetramethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-2-yl)methoxy]-phenyl]methyl]-2,4-thiazolidinedione.

Another embodiment provides a method of treating myotonic dystrophy, the method comprising administering to a patient having myotonic dystrophy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula II

$$L_{2} = C + C + C = 0$$

$$R_{11} = CH - C = 0$$

$$S = NH$$

$$C = 0$$

wherein  $R_{11}$  is substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, phenylalkyl, phenyl, aromatic acyl group, a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic group including 1 or 2 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, oxygen, and sulfur, or a group of the formula

$$\begin{array}{c} R_{13} \\ R_{14} \end{array}$$

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wherein  $R_{13}$  and  $R_{14}$  are the same or different and each is lower alkyl or  $R_{13}$  and  $R_{14}$  are combined to each other either directly or as interrupted by a heteroatom selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, oxygen, and sulfur to form a 5- or 6-membered ring; wherein  $R_{12}$  means a bond or a lower alkylene group; and wherein  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are the same or different and each is hydrogen or lower alkyl or  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are combined to

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form an alkylene group, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Also provided is a method of treating myotonic dystrophy, the method comprising administering to a patient having myotonic dystrophy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula III

$$\begin{array}{c|c} & & & & \\ & &$$

wherein  $R_{15}$  and  $R_{16}$  are independently hydrogen, lower alkyl containing 1 to 6 carbon atoms, alkoxy containing 1 to 6 carbon atoms, halogen, ethynyl, nitrile, methylthio, trifluoromethyl, vinyl, nitro, or halogen substituted benzyloxy; n is 0 to 4 and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

The present invention also provides a method of treating myotonic dystrophy, the method comprising administering to a patient having myotonic dystrophy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula IV

$$Z \xrightarrow{X} (CH_2)_n \longrightarrow V \xrightarrow{S} NH \qquad IV$$

wherein the dotted line represents a bond or no bond;
V is -CH = CH-, -N = CH-, -CH = N- or S;
D is CH<sub>2</sub>, CHOH, CO, C = NOR<sub>17</sub> or CH = CH;
X is S, O, NR<sub>18</sub>, -CH = N or -N = CH;
Y is CH or N;
Z is hydrogen, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>) alkyl, (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>)cycloalkyl,
phenyl, naphthyl, pyridyl, furyl, thienyl, or phenyl

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mono- or disubstituted with the same or different groups which are  $(C_1-C_3)$  alkyl, trifluoromethyl,  $(C_1-C_3)$  alkoxy, fluoro, chloro, or bromo;  $Z_1$  is hydrogen or  $(C_1-C_3)$  alkyl;

 $R_{17}$  and  $R_{18}$  are each independently hydrogen or methyl; and n is 1, 2, or 3; the pharmaceutically acceptable cationic salts thereof; and the pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts thereof when the compound contains a basic nitrogen.

In another embodiment, the present invention provides a method of treating myotonic dystrophy, the method comprising administering to a patient having myotonic dystrophy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula V

$$X_{2}$$

$$X_{2}$$

$$X_{1}$$

$$X_{1}$$

$$X_{1}$$

$$X_{1}$$

$$X_{1}$$

$$X_{1}$$

$$X_{2}$$

$$X_{3}$$

$$X_{1}$$

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$$X_{4}$$

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$$X_{1}$$

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$$X_{2}$$

$$X_{3}$$

$$X_{4}$$

$$X_{5}$$

$$X_{5}$$

$$X_{5}$$

$$X_{5}$$

$$X_{5}$$

$$X_{7}$$

$$X_{1}$$

$$X_{1}$$

$$X_{2}$$

$$X_{3}$$

$$X_{4}$$

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$$X_{4}$$

$$X_{5}$$

$$X_{7}$$

$$X_{7}$$

$$X_{1}$$

$$X_{1}$$

$$X_{2}$$

$$X_{3}$$

$$X_{4}$$

$$X_{5}$$

$$X_{7}$$

$$X_{7$$

wherein the dotted line represents a bond or no bond; A and B are each independently CH or N, with the proviso that when A or B is N, the other is CH;  $X_1$  is S, SO, SO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>, CHOH, or CO; n is 0 or 1;

Y<sub>1</sub> is  $CHR_{20}$  or  $R_{21}$ , with the proviso that when n is 1 and Y<sub>1</sub> is  $NR_{21}$ , X<sub>1</sub> is  $SO_2$  or CO;

Z<sub>2</sub> is  $CHR_{22}$ ,  $CH_2CH_2$ , CH=CH, CH—CH,  $OCH_2$ ,  $SCH_2$ ,

SOCH<sub>2</sub>, or SO<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>;

 $R_{19}$ ,  $R_{20}$ ,  $R_{21}$ , and  $R_{22}$  are each independently hydrogen or methyl; and  $X_2$  and  $X_3$  are each independently hydrogen, methyl, trifluoromethyl, phenyl, benzyl, hydroxy, methoxy, phenoxy, benzyloxy, bromo, chloro, or fluoro;

a pharmaceutically acceptable cationic salt thereof; or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof when A or B is N.

In another embodiment, the present invention provides a method of treating myotonic dystrophy, the method comprising administering to a patient having myotonic dystrophy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula VI

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$$\begin{array}{c} CH_{3} \\ CH_{2} \\ N \end{array}$$

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein  $R_{23}$  is alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, phenyl, or mono- or disubstituted phenyl wherein said substituents are independently alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, alkoxy of 1 to 3 carbon atoms, halogen, or trifluoromethyl.

In another embodiment, the present invention provides a method of treating myotonic dystrophy, the method comprising administering to a patient having myotonic dystrophy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula VII

$$A_{2}$$
  $O - CO - N - (CH_{2}) - X_{4} - (CH_{2}) - X_{4} - (CH_{2}) - X_{4} - (CH_{2}) - (CH_{2})$ 

or a tautomeric form thereof and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable solvate thereof, wherein:

A2 represents an alkyl group, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group, or an aralkyl group wherein the alkylene or the aryl moiety may be substituted or unsubstituted;

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 $A_3$  represents a benzene ring having in total up to 3 optional substituents;

 $R_{24}$  represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an acyl group, an aralkyl group wherein the alkyl, or the aryl moiety may be substituted or unsubstituted, or a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group; or  $A_2$  together with  $R_{24}$  represents substituted or unsubstituted  $C_{2-3}$  polymethylene group, optional substituents for the polymethylene group being selected from alkyl or aryl or adjacent substituents together with the methylene carbon atoms to which they are attached form a substituted or unsubstituted phenylene group;

 $\rm R_{25}$  and  $\rm R_{26}$  each represent hydrogen, or  $\rm R_{25}$  and  $\rm R_{26}$  together represent a bond;  $\rm X_4$  represents O or S; and

n represents an integer in the range of from 2 to 6.

In another embodiment, the present invention provides a method of treating myotonic dystrophy, the method comprising administering to a patient having myotonic dystrophy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula VIII

$$\begin{array}{c}
R_{27} \longrightarrow CO \\
R_{28} \longrightarrow CO
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
N \longrightarrow (CH_2) \longrightarrow X_5 \longrightarrow A_4 \longrightarrow CH \longrightarrow S \longrightarrow NH \\
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
N \longrightarrow (CH_2) \longrightarrow X_5 \longrightarrow A_4 \longrightarrow CH \longrightarrow S \longrightarrow NH \\
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
N \longrightarrow (CH_2) \longrightarrow (CH_2)$$

or a tautomeric form thereof and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable solvate therefor, wherein:

 $R_{27}$  and  $R_{28}$  each independently represent an alkyl group, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group, or an aralkyl group being substituted or unsubstituted in the aryl or alkyl moiety; or

 $R_{27}$  together with  $R_{28}$  represents a linking group, the linking group consisting of an optionally substituted

methylene group and either a further optionally substituted methylene group or an O or S atom, optional substituents for the said methylene groups being selected from alkyl-, aryl, or aralkyl, or substituents of adjacent methylene groups together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached form a substituted or unsubstituted phenylene group;

 $\rm R_{29}$  and  $\rm R_{30}$  each represent hydrogen, or  $\rm R_{29}$  and  $\rm R_{30}$  together represent a bond;

A<sub>4</sub> represents a benzene ring having in total up to 3 optional substituents;

 $X_5$  represents 0 or S; and

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n represents an integer in the range of from 2 to 6.

In another embodiment, the present invention provides a method of treating myotonic dystrophy, the method comprising administering to a patient having myotonic dystrophy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula IX

$$A_5 - X_6 - (CH_2)_n - Y_2 - A_6 - CH_2 - C_1 - NH$$
IX

or a tautomeric form thereof and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable solvate thereof, wherein:

 $A_5$  represents a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic heterocyclyl group;

 $A_6$  represents a benzene ring having in total up to 5 substituents;

 $X_6$  represents O, S, or  $NR_{32}$  wherein  $R_{32}$  represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an acyl group, an aralkyl group, wherein the aryl moiety may be substituted or unsubstituted, or a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group;

Y<sub>2</sub> represents O or S;

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 $R_{31}$  represents an alkyl, aralkyl, or aryl group; and n represents an integer in the range of from 2 to 6.

In another embodiment, the present invention provides a method of treating myotonic dystrophy, the method comprising administering to a patient having myotonic dystrophy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula  ${\tt X}$ 

$$A_{7}-X_{8}-(CH_{2})_{n}-Y_{3}-A_{8}$$

$$A_{8}-CH-C$$

$$NH$$

$$X$$

or a tautomeric form thereof and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable solvate thereof, wherein:

 ${\bf A}_7$  represents a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group;

 $A_8$  represents a benzene ring having in total up to 5 substituents;

X<sub>8</sub> represents O, S, or NR<sub>39</sub> wherein R<sub>39</sub> represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an acyl group, an aralkyl group, wherein the aryl moiety may be substituted or unsubstituted, or a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group;

 $Y_3$  represents 0 or S;  $R_{37}$  represents hydrogen;

 $R_{38}$  represents hydrogen or an alkyl, aralkyl, or aryl group or  $R_{37}$  together with  $R_{38}$  represents a bond; and n represents an integer in the range of from 2 to 6.

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### DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Compounds used in the method of the present invention, which are 5-[4-(chromoanalkoxy)benzyl]

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thiazolidene derivatives, may be represented by the Formulas (Ia), (Ib), and (Ic)

$$\begin{array}{c}
R^4 \\
R^5 \\
R^3O
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
R^1 \\
CH_2)_{n} \\
CH_2
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
CH \\
CH_2
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
CH \\
CH
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
CH \\
CH$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
CH \\
CH
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
CH \\
CH$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
CH \\
CH
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
CH \\
CH$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
CH \\
CH
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
CH \\
CH$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
CH \\
CH
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
CH \\
CH$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
CH \\
CH
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
CH \\
CH$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
CH \\
CH
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
CH \\
CH$$

$$CH$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
CH \\
CH$$

$$CH$$

$$C$$

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$$\begin{array}{c}
R^{4} \\
\downarrow \\
R^{3}O
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
R^{1} \\
\downarrow \\
R^{2}
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
CH_{2} \\
\downarrow \\
R^{3}O
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
CH_{2} \\
\downarrow \\
R^{3}O$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
CH_{2} \\
\downarrow \\
R^{3}O
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
CH_{2} \\
\downarrow \\
R^{3}O$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
CH_{2} \\
\downarrow$$

 $\begin{array}{c}
R_4 \\
R^3 O
\end{array}$   $\begin{array}{c}
CH_2 \\
CH_2
\end{array}$   $\begin{array}{c}
CH_2 \\
CH_2$   $CH_2$   $CH_2 \\
CH_2$   $CH_2$   $CH_2$ 

(in which  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$ ,  $R^5$ ,  $R^6$ , n, Y, and Z are as defined above) and include pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

In the compounds of the invention, where  $R^1$  or  $R^2$  represents an alkyl group, the alkyl group may be a straight or branched chain alkyl group having from 1 to 5 carbon atoms and is preferably a primary or secondary alkyl group, for example the methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, isobutyl, pentyl, or isopentyl group.

Where R<sup>3</sup> or R<sup>6</sup> represents an aliphatic acyl group, the aliphatic acyl group preferably has from 1 to 6 carbon atoms and can include one or more carbon-carbon double or triple bonds. Examples of such groups include the formyl, acetyl, propionyl, butyryl,

isobutyryl, pivaloyl, hexanoyl, acryloyl, methacryloyl, and crotonyl groups.

Where  $R^3$  or  $R^6$  represents an alicyclic acyl group, it is preferably a cyclopentanecarbonyl, cyclohexane-carbonyl, or cycloheptanecarbonyl group.

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Where R<sup>3</sup> or R<sup>6</sup> represents an aromatic acyl group, the aromatic moiety thereof may optionally have one or more substituents (for example, nitro, amino, alkylamino, dialkylamino, alkoxy, halo, alkyl, or hydroxy substituents); examples of such aromatic acyl groups included the benzoyl, p-nitrobenzoyl, m-fluorobenzoyl, o-chlorobenzoyl, p-aminobenzoyl, m-(dimethylamino)benzoyl, o-methoxybenzoyl, 3,4-dichlorobenzoyl, 3,5-di-t-butyl-4-hydroxybenzoyl, and 1-naphthoyl groups.

Where R<sup>3</sup> or R<sup>6</sup> represents a heterocyclic acyl group, the heterocyclic moiety thereof preferably has one or more, preferably one, oxygen, sulfur, or nitrogen heteroatoms and has from 4 to 7 ring atoms; examples of such heterocyclic acyl groups include the 2-furoyl, 3-thenoyl, 3-pyridinecarbonyl (nicotinoyl), and 4-pyridinecarbonyl groups.

Where R<sup>3</sup> or R<sup>6</sup> represents an araliphatic acyl group, the aliphatic moiety thereof may optionally have one or more carbon-carbon double or triple bonds and the aryl moiety thereof may optionally have one or more substituents (for example, nitro, amino, alkylamino, dialkylamino, alkoxy, halo, alkyl, or hydroxy substituents); examples of such araliphatic acyl groups include the phenylacetyl, p-chlorophenylacetyl, phenylpropionyl, and cinnamoyl groups.

Where  $R^3$  or  $R^6$  represents a  $(C_1\text{-}C_6$  alkoxy)carbonyl group, the alkyl moiety thereof may be any one of those alkyl groups as defined for  $R^1$  and  $R^2$ , but is preferably a methyl or ethyl group, and the alkoxycarbonyl group represented by  $R^3$  or  $R^6$  is

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therefore preferably a methoxycarbonyl or ethoxycarbonyl group.

Where  $R^3$  or  $R^6$  represents an aralkyloxycarbonyl group, the aralkyl moiety thereof may be any one of those included within the araliphatic acyl group represented by  $R^3$  or  $R^6$ , but is preferably a benzyloxycarbonyl group.

Where  $R^4$  and  $R^5$  represent alkyl groups, the alkyl groups can be the same or different and can be straight or branched chain alkyl groups. The alkyl groups preferably have from 1 to 5 carbon atoms and examples include the methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, isobutyl, t-butyl, pentyl, and isopentyl groups.

Where  $R^4$  and  $R^5$  represent alkoxy groups, the alkoxy groups can be the same or different and can be straight or branched chain groups, preferably having from 1 to 4 carbon atoms. Examples include the methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, isopropoxy, and butoxy groups. Alternatively,  $R^4$  and  $R^5$  can together represent a  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkylenedioxy group, more preferably a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group.

Preferred classes of compounds of Formula I are as follows:

- (1) Compounds in which  ${\bf R}^3$  represents a hydrogen atom, a  ${\bf C}_1$ - ${\bf C}_6$  aliphatic acyl group, an aromatic acyl group, or a heterocyclic acyl group.
- (2) Compounds in which Y represents an oxygen atom;  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are the same or different and each represents a hydrogen atom or a  $C_1$ - $C_5$  alkyl group;  $R^3$  represents a hydrogen atom, a  $C_1$ - $C_6$  aliphatic acyl group, an aromatic acyl group, or a pyridinecarbonyl group; and  $R^4$  and  $R^5$  are the same or different and each represents a hydrogen atom, a  $C_1$ - $C_5$  alkyl group, or a  $C_1$  or  $C_2$  alkoxy group.
- (3) Compounds as defined in (2) above, in which:  $\mathbb{R}^1$ ,  $\mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $\mathbb{R}^4$ , and  $\mathbb{R}^5$  are the same or different and each

represents a hydrogen atom or a  $C_1$ - $C_5$  alkyl group; n is 1 or 2; and W represents the -CH<sub>2</sub>- or >CO group.

(4) Compounds as defined in (3) above, in which  $R^3$  represents a hydrogen atom, a  $C_1$ - $C_5$  aliphatic acyl group, a benzoyl group, or a nicotinyl group.

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- (5) Compounds as defined in (4) above, in which:  $R^1$  and  $R^4$  are the same or different and each represents a  $C_1$ - $C_5$  alkyl group;  $R^2$  and  $R^5$  are the same or different and each represents the hydrogen atom or the methyl group; and  $R^3$  represents a hydrogen atom or a  $C_1$ - $C_4$  aliphatic acyl group.
- (6) Compounds in which: W represents the -CH $_2$ -or >CO group; Y and Z both represent oxygen atoms; n is 1 or 2; R $^1$  and R $^4$  are the same or different and each represents a C $_1$ -C $_4$  alkyl group; R $^2$  and R $^5$  are the same or different and each represents the hydrogen atom or the methyl group; and R $^3$  represents a hydrogen atom or a C $_1$ -C $_4$  aliphatic acyl group.
- (7) Compounds as defined in (6) above, in which n is 1.
  - (8) Compounds as defined in (6) or (7) above, in which W represents the  $-CH_2$  group.

Preferred compounds among the compounds of Formula I are those wherein:

 ${\bf R}^1$  is a  ${\bf C}_1$ - ${\bf C}_4$  alkyl group, more preferably a methyl or isobutyl group, most preferably a methyl group;

 $R^2$  is a hydrogen atom or a  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl group, preferably a hydrogen atom, or a methyl or isopropyl group, more preferably a hydrogen atom or a methyl group, most preferably a methyl group;

 ${\bf R}^3$  is a hydrogen atom, a  ${\bf C}_1$ - ${\bf C}_4$  aliphatic acyl group, an aromatic acyl group or a pyridinecarbonyl group, preferably a hydrogen atom, or an acetyl, butyryl, benzoyl, or nicotinyl group, more preferably a

hydrogen atom or an acetyl, butyryl or benzoyl group, most preferably a hydrogen atom or an acetyl group;

 $R^4$  is a hydrogen atom, a  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl group or a  $C_1$  or  $C_2$  alkoxy group, preferably a methyl, isopropyl, t-butyl, or methoxy group, more preferably a methyl or t-butyl group, most preferably a methyl group;

 $R^5$  is a hydrogen atom, a  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl group or a  $C_1$  or  $C_2$  alkoxy group, preferably a hydrogen atom, or a methyl or methoxy group, more preferably a hydrogen atom or a methyl group, and most preferably a methyl group;

n is 1 or 2, preferably 1;

Y is an oxygen atom;

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Z is an oxygen atom or an imino group, most preferably an oxygen atom; and

W is a -CH $_2$ - or >C=O group, preferably a -CH $_2$ - group.

Referring to the general Formula II, the substituents may be any from 1 to 3 selected from nitro, amino, alkylamino, dialkylamino, alkoxy, halo, alkyl, or hydroxy, the aromatic acyl group may be benzoyl and naphthoyl. The alkyl group  $R_{11}$  may be a straight chain or branched alkyl of 1 to 10 carbon atoms, such as methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, i-propyl, n-butyl, i-butyl, t-butyl, n-pentyl, i-pentyl, n-hexyl, n-heptyl, n-octyl, n-nonyl, and n-decyl; the cycloalkyl group  $R_{11}$  may be a cycloalkyl group of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, such as cyclopropyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, and cycloheptyl; and the phenylalkyl group  $R_{11}$  may be a phenylalkyl group of 7 to 11 carbon atoms such as benzyl and phenethyl. As examples of the heterocyclic group  $R_{11}$  may be mentioned 5- or 6-membered groups each including 1 or 2 hetero-atoms selected from among nitrogen, oxygen, and sulfur, such as pyridyl, thienyl, furyl, thiazolyl, etc. When  $R_{11}$  is

the lower alkyls  $R_{13}$  and  $R_{14}$  may each be a lower alkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, such as methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, i-propyl, and n-butyl. When  $R_{13}$  and  $R_{14}$  are combined to each other to form a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic group as taken together with the adjacent N atom, i.e., in the form of

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$$R_{2}$$

$$R_{3}$$

$$R_{4}$$

$$R_{4}$$

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this heterocyclic group may further include a heteroatom selected from among nitrogen, oxygen, and sulfur as exemplified by piperidino, morpholino, pyrrolidino, and piperazino. The lower alkylene group  $R_{12}$  may contain 1 to 3 carbon atoms and thus may be, for example, methylene, ethylene, or trimethylene. The bond  ${\bf R}_{12}$  is equivalent to the symbol "-", ".", or the like which is used in chemical structural formulas, and when  $R_{12}$  represents such a bond, the compound of general Formula II is represented by the following general Formula II(a)

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Thus, when  $R_{12}$  is a bond, the atoms adjacent thereto on both sides are directly combined together. As examples of the lower alkyls  $L_1$  and  $L_2$ , there may be mentioned lower alkyl groups of 1 to 3 carbon atoms, such as methyl and ethyl. The alkylene group formed as

 $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are joined together is a group of the formula  $-(CH_2)_n$ - [where n is an integer of 2 to 6]. The cycloalkyl, phenylalkyl, phenyl, and heterocyclic groups mentioned above, as well as said heterocyclic group

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may have 1 to 3 substituents in optional positions on the respective rings. As examples of such substituents may be mentioned lower alkyls (e.g., methyl, ethyl, etc.), lower alkoxy groups (e.g., methoxy, ethoxy, etc.), halogens (e.g., chlorine, bromine, etc.), and hydroxyl. The case also falls within the scope of the general Formula II that an alkylenedioxy group of the formula -O-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>-O- [is an integer of 1 to 3], such as methylenedioxy, is attached to the two adjacent carbon atoms on the ring to form an additional ring.

The preferred compounds of Formula III are those wherein  $R_{15}$  and  $R_{16}$  are independently hydrogen, lower alkyl containing 1 to 6 carbon atoms, alkoxy containing 1 to 6 carbon atoms, halogen, ethynyl, nitrile, trifluoromethyl, vinyl, or nitro; n is 1 or 2 and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

Preferred in Formula IV are compounds wherein the dotted line represents no bond, particularly wherein D is CO or CHOH. More preferred are compounds wherein V is -CH = CH-, -CH = N-, or S and n is 2, particularly those compounds wherein X is O and Y is N, X is S and Y is N, X is S and Y is N, X is S and Y is CH or X is -CH = N- and Y is CH. In the most preferred compounds X is O or S and Y is N forming an oxazol-4-yl, oxazol-5-yl, thiazol-4-yl, or thiazol-5-yl group; most particularly a 2-[(2-thienyl), (2-furyl), phenyl, or substituted phenyl]-5-methyl-4-oxazolyl group.

The preferred compounds in Formula V are:

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- those wherein the dotted line represents no bond, A and B are each CH, X<sub>1</sub> is CO, n is 0, R<sub>19</sub> is hydrogen, Z<sub>2</sub> is CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub> or CH=CH and X<sub>3</sub> is hydrogen, particularly when X<sub>2</sub> is hydrogen, 2-methoxy, 4-benzyloxy, or 4-phenyl;
- b) those wherein A and B are each CH,  $X_1$  is S or  $SO_2$ , n is 0,  $R_{19}$  is hydrogen,  $Z_2$  is  $CH_2CH_2$ , and  $X_3$  is hydrogen, particularly when  $X_2$  is hydrogen or 4-chloro.

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A preferred group of compounds is that of Formula VI wherein  $R_{23}$  is  $(C_1 - C_6)$  alkyl,  $(C_3 - C_7)$  cycloalkyl, phenyl, halophenyl, or  $(C_1 - C_6)$  alkylphenyl. Especially preferred within this group are the compounds where  $R_{23}$  is phenyl, methylphenyl, fluorophenyl, chlorophenyl, or cyclohexyl.

When used herein with regard to Formulas VII through X, the term "aryl" includes phenyl and naphthyl, substituted phenyl, optionally substituted with up to 5, preferably up to 3, groups selected from halogen, alkyl, phenyl, alkoxy, haloalkyl, hydroxy, amino, nitro, carboxy, alkoxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl alkyl, alkylcarbonyloxy, or alkylcarbonyl groups.

The term "halogen" refers to fluorine, chlorine, bromine, and iodine; preferably chlorine.

The terms "alkyl" and "alkoxy" relate to groups having straight or branched carbon chains, containing up to 12 carbon atoms.

Suitable alkyl groups are  $C_{1-12}$  alkyl groups, especially  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl groups, e.g., methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, iso-propyl, n-butyl, isobutyl, or tert-butyl groups.

Suitable substituents for any alkyl group include those indicated above in relation to the term "aryl".

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Suitable substituents for any heterocyclyl group include up to 4 substituents selected from the group consisting of alkyl, alkoxy, aryl, and halogen or any 2 substituents on adjacent carbon atoms, together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached, may form an aryl group, preferably a benzene ring, and wherein the carbon atoms of the aryl group represented by the said 2 substituents may themselves be substituted or unsubstituted.

A most preferred compound of the present invention is:

5-[[4-[(3,4-dihydro-6-hydroxy-2,5,7,8-tetramethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-2-yl)methoxy]phenyl]methyl]-2,4-thiazolidinedione.

Other preferred compounds of the present method include ciglitazone, pioglitazone, darglitazone, englitazone, and BRL 49653.

Ciglitazone is also known as 5-[p-[(1-Methylcyclohexyl)methoxy]benzyl]-2,4-thiazolidinedione.

Pioglitazone is also known as 5-[p-[2-(5-Ethyl-2-pyridyl)ethoxy]benzyl]-2,4-thiazolidinedione.

Darglitazone is also known as 5-[p-[3-(5-Methyl-2-phenyl-4-oxazolyl)propionyl]benzyl]-2,4-thiazolidinedione.

Englitazone is also known as 5-[[(2R)-2-Benzyl-6-chromanyl]methyl]-2,4-thiazolidinedione.

BRL 49653 is also known as 5-[(4-[2-Methyl-2-(prindinylamino)ethoxy]phenyl)methyl]-2,4-thiazolidinedione-(Z)-2-butenedioate (1:1).

The term "patient" includes humans and other animals.

The compounds of Formulas I through X are capable of further forming both pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition and/or base salts. All of these forms are within the scope of the present invention.

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Pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts of the compounds of Formulas I through X include salts derived from nontoxic inorganic acids such as hydrochloric, nitric, phosphoric, sulfuric, 5 hydrobromic, hydriodic, hydrofluoric, phosphorous, and the like, as well as the salts derived from nontoxic organic acids, such as aliphatic mono- and dicarboxylic acids, phenyl-substituted alkanoic acids, hydroxy alkanoic acids, alkanedioic acids, aromatic acids, 10 aliphatic and aromatic sulfonic acids, etc. thus include sulfate, pyrosulfate, bisulfate, sulfite, bisulfite, nitrate, phosphate, monohydrogenphosphate, dihydrogenphosphate, metaphosphate, pyrophosphate, chloride, bromide, iodide, acetate, trifluoroacetate, 15 propionate, caprylate, isobutyrate, oxalate, malonate, succinate, suberate, sebacate, fumarate, maleate, mandelate, benzoate, chlorobenzoate, methylbenzoate, dinitrobenzoate, phthalate, benzenesulfonate, toluenesulfonate, phenylacetate, citrate, lactate, 20 maleate, tartrate, methanesulfonate, and the like. Also contemplated are salts of amino acids such as arginate and the like and gluconate, galacturonate, n-methyl glucamine (see, for example, Berge S.M., et al., "Pharmaceutical Salts," Journal of 25 Pharmaceutical Science, 1977;66:1-19).

The acid addition salts of said basic compounds are prepared by contacting the free base form with a sufficient amount of the desired acid to produce the salt in the conventional manner. The free base form may be regenerated by contacting the salt form with a base and isolating the free base in the conventional manner or as above. The free base forms differ from their respective salt forms somewhat in certain physical properties such as solubility in polar solvents, but otherwise the salts are equivalent to

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their respective free base for purposes of the present invention.

Pharmaceutically acceptable base addition salts are formed with metals or amines, such as alkali and alkaline earth metals or organic amines. Examples of metals used as cations are sodium, potassium, magnesium, calcium, and the like. Examples of suitable amines are N,N'-dibenzylethylenediamine, chloroprocaine, choline, diethanolamine, dicyclohexylamine, ethylenediamine, N-methylglucamine, and procaine (see, for example, Berge S.M., et al., "Pharmaceutical Salts," Journal of Pharmaceutical Science, 1977;66:1-19).

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The base addition salts of said acidic compounds are prepared by contacting the free acid form with a sufficient amount of the desired base to produce the salt in the conventional manner. The free acid form may be regenerated by contacting the salt form with an acid and isolating the free acid in the conventional manner or as above. The free acid forms differ from their respective salt forms somewhat in certain physical properties such as solubility in polar solvents, but otherwise the salts are equivalent to their respective free acid for purposes of the present invention.

Certain of the compounds of the present invention can exist in unsolvated forms as well as solvated forms, including hydrated forms. In general, the solvated forms, including hydrated forms, are equivalent to unsolvated forms and are intended to be encompassed within the scope of the present invention.

Certain of the compounds of the present invention possess one or more chiral centers and each center may exist in different configurations. The compounds can, therefore, form stereoisomers. Although these are all represented herein by a limited number of molecular

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formulas, the present invention includes the use of both the individual, isolated isomers and mixtures, including racemates, thereof. Where stereospecific synthesis techniques are employed or optically active compounds are employed as starting materials in the preparation of the compounds, individual isomers may be prepared directly; on the other hand, if a mixture of isomers is prepared, the individual isomers may be obtained by conventional resolution techniques, or the mixture may be used as it is, without resolution.

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Furthermore, the thiazolidene part of the compound of Formulas I through X can exist in the form of tautomeric isomers. All of the tautomers are represented by Formulas I through X, and are intended to be a part of the present invention.

For preparing pharmaceutical compositions from the compounds of the present invention, pharmaceutically acceptable carriers can be either solid or liquid. Solid form preparations include powders, tablets, pills, capsules, cachets, suppositories, and dispersible granules. A solid carrier can be one or more substances which may also act as diluents, flavoring agents, binders, preservatives, tablet disintegrating agents, or an encapsulating material.

In powders, the carrier is a finely divided solid which is in a mixture with the finely divided active component.

In tablets, the active component is mixed with the carrier having the necessary binding properties in suitable proportions and compacted in the shape and size desired.

The powders and tablets preferably contain from five or ten to about seventy percent of the active compound. Suitable carriers are magnesium carbonate, magnesium stearate, talc, sugar, lactose, pectin, dextrin, starch, gelatin, tragacanth, methylcellulose,

sodium carboxymethylcellulose, a low melting wax, cocoa butter, and the like. The term "preparation" is intended to include the formulation of the active compound with encapsulating material as a carrier providing a capsule in which the active component with or without other carriers, is surrounded by a carrier, which is thus in association with it. Similarly, cachets and lozenges are included. Tablets, powders, capsules, pills, cachets, and lozenges can be used as solid dosage forms suitable for oral administration.

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For preparing suppositories, a low melting wax, such as a mixture of fatty acid glycerides or cocoa butter, is first melted and the active component is dispersed homogeneously therein, as by stirring. The molten homogeneous mixture is then poured into convenient sized molds, allowed to cool, and thereby to solidify.

Liquid form preparations include solutions, suspensions, and emulsions, for example, water or water propylene glycol solutions. For parenteral injection liquid preparations can be formulated in solution in aqueous polyethylene glycol solution.

Aqueous solutions suitable for oral use can be prepared by dissolving the active component in water and adding suitable colorants, flavors, stabilizing and thickening agents as desired.

Aqueous suspensions suitable for oral use can be made by dispersing the finely divided active component in water with viscous material, such as natural or synthetic gums, resins, methylcellulose, sodium carboxymethylcellulose, and other well-known suspending agents.

Also included are solid form preparations which are intended to be converted, shortly before use, to liquid form preparations for oral administration. Such liquid forms include solutions, suspensions, and

emulsions. These preparations may contain, in addition to the active component, colorants, flavors, stabilizers, buffers, artificial and natural sweeteners, dispersants, thickeners, solubilizing agents, and the like.

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The pharmaceutical preparation is preferably in unit dosage form. In such form the preparation is subdivided into unit doses containing appropriate quantities of the active component. The unit dosage form can be a packaged preparation, the package containing discrete quantities of preparation, such as packeted tablets, capsules, and powders in vials or ampoules. Also, the unit dosage form can be a capsules, tablet, cachet, or lozenge itself, or it can be the appropriate number of any of these in packaged form.

The quantity of active component in a unit dose preparation may be varied or adjusted from 0.1 mg to 600 mg preferably 0.5 mg to 400 mg according to the particular application and the potency of the active component. The composition can, if desired, also contain other compatible therapeutic agents.

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The dosages, however, may be varied depending upon the requirements of the patient, the severity of the condition being treated, and the compound being employed. Determination of the proper dosage for a particular situation is within the skill of the art. Generally, treatment is initiated with smaller dosages which are less than the optimum dose of the compound. Thereafter, the dosage is increased by small increments until the optimum effect under the circumstances is reached. For convenience, the total daily dosage may be divided and administered in portions during the day, if desired.

The compounds of the present invention, and methods of making these compounds, are known and

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disclosed in U.S. Patents 5,223,522 issued June 29, 1993; 5,132,317 issued July 12, 1992; 5,120,754 issued June 9, 1992; 5,061,717 issued October 29, 1991; 4,897,405 issued January 30, 1990; 4,873,255 issued October 10, 1989; 4,687,777 issued August 18, 1987; 4,572,912, issued February 25, 1986; and 4,287,200, issued September 1, 1981. These issued patents are incorporated herein by reference.

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#### CLAIMS

1. A method of treating myotonic dystrophy, the method comprising administering to a patient having myotonic dystrophy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula I

wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are the same or different and each represents a hydrogen atom or a  $C_1$ - $C_5$  alkyl group;

 $R^3$  represents a hydrogen atom, a  $C_1$ - $C_6$  aliphatic acyl group, an alicyclic acyl group, an aromatic acyl group, a heterocyclic acyl group, an araliphatic acyl group, a  $(C_1$ - $C_6$  alkoxy)carbonyl group, or an aralkyloxycarbonyl group;

 $R^4$  and  $R^5$  are the same or different and each represents a hydrogen atom, a  $C_1$ - $C_5$  alkyl group or a  $C_1$ - $C_5$  alkoxy group, or  $R^4$  and  $R^5$  together represent a  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkylenedioxy group;

n is 1, 2, or 3;

W represents the  $-CH_2-$ , CO, or  $CH-OR^6$  group (in which  $R^6$  represents any one of the atoms or groups defined for  $R^3$  and may be the same as or different from  $R^3$ ); and

Y and Z are the same or different and each represents an oxygen atom or an imino (=NH) group;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

 A method of treating myotonic dystrophy, the method comprising administering to a patient

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having myotonic dystrophy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1 in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, diluent, or carrier.

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- 3. The method of Claim 2 comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula wherein Y and Z are oxygen.
- 4. The method of Claim 2 comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula I wherein W is -CH<sub>2</sub>-.
- 5. The method of Claim 2 comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula wherein n is 1.
- 6. The method of Claim 2 comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula I wherein  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_4$ , and  $R_5$  are lower alkyl and  $R_3$  is H.
- 7. The method of Claim 2 comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula I wherein Z and Y are oxygen, n is 1, and W is -CH<sub>2</sub>-.
- 8. The method of Claim 2 comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula I wherein the compound is 5-[[4-[(3,4-dihydro-6-hydroxy-2,5,7,8-tetramethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-2-yl)methoxy]phenyl] methyl]-2,4-thiazolidinedione.
- A method of treating myotonic dystrophy, the method comprising administering to a patient

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having myotonic dystrophy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula II

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$$L_{2} = \begin{pmatrix} L_{1} \\ C \\ R_{11} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} CH_{2} \\ CH_{2} \\ CH_{2} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} CH_{2} \\ CH_{3} \\ C \\ NH \\ C \end{pmatrix}$$
II

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wherein  $R_{11}$  is substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, phenylalkyl, phenyl, aromatic acyl group, a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic group including 1 or 2 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, oxygen, and sulfur, or a group of the formula

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$$R_{13}$$
 N —

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wherein  $R_{13}$  and  $R_{14}$  are the same or different and each is lower alkyl or  $R_{13}$  and  $R_{14}$  are combined to each other either directly or as interrupted by a heteroatom selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, oxygen, and sulfur to form a 5- or 6-membered ring;

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wherein  $R_{12}$  means a bond or a lower alkylene group; and

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wherein  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are the same or different and each is hydrogen or lower alkyl or  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are combined to form an alkylene group, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

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10. A method of treating myotonic dystrophy, the method comprising administering to a patient having myotonic dystrophy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to

5 Claim 9 in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, diluent, or carrier.

- 11. The method of Claim 10 comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula II wherein the compound is pioglitazone.
- 12. The method of Claim 10 comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula II wherein the compound is ciglitazone.
- 13. A method of treating myotonic dystrophy, the method comprising administering to a patient having myotonic dystrophy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula III

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$$R_{15} = \begin{pmatrix} CH_2 & & & \\ & &$$

- wherein R<sub>15</sub> and R<sub>16</sub> are independently hydrogen, lower alkyl containing 1 to 6 carbon atoms, alkoxy containing 1 to 6 carbon atoms, halogen, ethynyl, nitrile, methylthio, trifluoromethyl, vinyl, nitro, or halogen substituted benzyloxy;

  n is 0 to 4 and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.
  - 14. A method of treating myotonic dystrophy, the method comprising administering to a patient having myotonic dystrophy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula IV

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wherein the dotted line represents a bond or no bond;

V is -CH = CH-, -N = CH-, -CH = N- or S;

D is  $CH_2$ , CHOH, CO,  $C = NOR_{17}$  or CH = CH;

X is S, O,  $NR_{18}$ , -CH = N or -N = CH;

Y is CH or N;

Is z is hydrogen,  $(C_1-C_7)$  alkyl,

 $(C_3-C_7)$  cycloalkyl, phenyl, naphthyl, pyridyl, furyl, thienyl, or phenyl mono- or disubstituted with the same or different groups which are  $(C_1-C_3)$  alkyl, trifluoromethyl,  $(C_1-C_3)$  alkoxy, if fluoro, chloro, or bromo;

 $Z_1$  is hydrogen or  $(C_1-C_3)$  alkyl;

 $\rm R_{17}$  and  $\rm R_{18}$  are each independently hydrogen or methyl; and n is 1, 2, or 3;

the pharmaceutically acceptable cationic salts thereof;

and the pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts thereof when the compound contains a basic nitrogen.

15. A method of treating myotonic dystrophy, the method comprising administering to a patient having myotonic dystrophy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula V

$$X_2$$
 $X_3$ 
 $X_1$ 
 $X_1$ 
 $X_2$ 
 $X_3$ 
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 $X_4$ 
 $X_5$ 
 $X_5$ 
 $X_5$ 
 $X_5$ 
 $X_5$ 
 $X_6$ 
 $X_7$ 
 $X_8$ 
 $X_8$ 

wherein the dotted line represents a bond or no bond;

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A and B are each independently CH or N, with the proviso that when A or B is N, the other is CH;

 $X_1$  is S, SO, SO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>, CHOH, or CO; n is 0 or 1;

 $\rm Y_1$  is CHR  $_{20}$  or R  $_{21},$  with the proviso that when n is 1 and Y  $_1$  is NR  $_{21},$  X  $_1$  is SO  $_2$  or CO;

$$\mathbf{Z}_2$$
 is  $\mathbf{CHR}_{22}$ ,  $\mathbf{CH}_2\mathbf{CH}_2$ ,  $\mathbf{CH}=\mathbf{CH}$ ,  $\mathbf{CH}$   $\mathbf{CH}$   $\mathbf{CH}$   $\mathbf{CH}_2$ ,

SCH<sub>2</sub>, SOCH<sub>2</sub> or SO<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>;

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 $\rm R_{19}\,,\ R_{20}\,,\ R_{21},\ and\ R_{22}$  are each independently hydrogen or methyl; and

 $\rm X_2$  and  $\rm X_3$  are each independently hydrogen, methyl, trifluoromethyl, phenyl, benzyl, hydroxy, methoxy, phenoxy, benzyloxy, bromo, chloro, or fluoro;

a pharmaceutically acceptable cationic salt thereof;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof when A or B is N.

16. A method of treating myotonic dystrophy, the method comprising administering to a patient having myotonic dystrophy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula VI

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein  $R_{23}$  is alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl of 3 to 7 carbon atoms, phenyl, or mono- or disubstituted phenyl wherein said substituents are independently alkyl of 1 to

6 carbon atoms, alkoxy of 1 to 3 carbon atoms, halogen, or trifluoromethyl.

17. A method of treating myotonic dystrophy, the method comprising administering to a patient having myotonic dystrophy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula VII

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$$A_{2}$$
 - 0 - C0 -  $N$  -  $(CH_{2})_{n}$  -  $X_{4}$  -  $A_{3}$  -  $CH$  -  $C$  NH  $CH$  -  $C$  NH  $CH$  -  $C$   $CH$  -  $C$   $CH$  -  $C$   $CH$  -  $CH$ 

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or a tautomeric form thereof and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable solvate thereof, wherein:

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 ${\rm A}_2$  represents an alkyl group, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group, or an aralkyl group wherein the alkylene or the aryl moiety may be substituted or unsubstituted;

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 ${\rm A}_3$  represents a benzene ring having in total up to 3 optional substituents;

 $R_{24}$  represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an acyl group, an aralkyl group wherein the alkyl, or the aryl moiety may be substituted or unsubstituted, or a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group;

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or  $A_2$  together with  $R_{24}$  represents substituted or unsubstituted  $C_{2-3}$  polymethylene group, optional substituents for the polymethylene group being selected from alkyl or aryl or adjacent substituents together with the methylene carbon atoms to which they are attached form a substituted or unsubstituted phenylene group;

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 $\rm R_{25}$  and  $\rm R_{26}$  each represent hydrogen, or  $\rm R_{25}$  and  $\rm R_{26}$  together represent a bond;

X<sub>4</sub> represents 0 or S; and

n represents an integer in the range of from 2 to 6.

18. A method of treating myotonic dystrophy, the method comprising administering to a patient having myotonic dystrophy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula VIII

$$R_{28} = CO \qquad (CH_2) = X_5 = A_4 = CH = S = NH \qquad VIII$$

or a tautomeric form thereof and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable solvate therefor, wherein:

 $R_{27}$  and  $R_{28}$  each independently represent an alkyl group, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group, or an aralkyl group being substituted or unsubstituted in the aryl or alkyl moiety;

or  $R_{27}$  together with  $R_{28}$  represents a linking group, the linking group consisting of an optionally substituted methylene group and either a further optionally substituted methylene group or an O or S atom, optional substituents for the said methylene groups being selected from alkyl-, aryl, or aralkyl, or substituents of adjacent methylene groups together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached form a substituted or unsubstituted phenylene group;

 $\rm R_{29}$  and  $\rm R_{30}$  each represent hydrogen, or  $\rm R_{29}$  and  $\rm R_{30}$  together represent a bond;

30

 ${\rm A_4}$  represents a benzene ring having in total up to 3 optional substituents;

 $X_5$  represents 0 or S; and

n represents an integer in the range of from 2 to 6.

19. A method of treating myotonic dystrophy, the method comprising administering to a patient having myotonic dystrophy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula IX

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$$A_{5} = X_{6} = (CH_{2})_{n} = Y_{2} = A_{6} = CH_{2} = C$$

$$S = NH$$

$$S = NH$$

$$S = NH$$

10

or a tautomeric form thereof and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable solvate thereof, wherein:

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 $\rm A_{5}$  represents a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic heterocyclyl group;

 $A_6$  represents a benzene ring having in total up to 5 substituents;

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25

 $\rm X_6$  represents O, S, or  $\rm NR_{32}$  wherein  $\rm R_{32}$  represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an acyl group, an aralkyl group, wherein the aryl moiety may be substituted or unsubstituted, or a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group;

Y<sub>2</sub> represents O or S;

 $\ensuremath{\text{R}_{31}}$  represents an alkyl, aralkyl, or aryl group; and

 $\,$  n represents an integer in the range of from 2 to 6.

20. A method of treating myotonic dystrophy, the method comprising administering to a patient having myotonic dystrophy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula X

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$$A_{7} = X_{8} = (CH_{2})_{n} = Y_{3} = A_{8} = CH = C$$

$$X$$

$$X$$

10

or a tautomeric form thereof and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable solvate thereof, wherein:

15

 ${\rm A}_7$  represents a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group;

 $A_8$  represents a benzene ring having in total up to 5 substituents;

20

 $\rm X_8$  represents O, S, or NR $_{39}$  wherein R $_{39}$  represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an acyl group, an aralkyl group, wherein the aryl moiety may be substituted or unsubstituted, or a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group;

Y<sub>3</sub> represents 0 or S;

 $R_{37}$  represents hydrogen;

25

 $\rm R_{38}$  represents hydrogen or an alkyl, aralkyl, or aryl group or  $\rm R_{37}$  together with  $\rm R_{38}$  represents a bond; and

n represents an integer in the range of from 2 to 6.

21. A method of treating myotonic dystrophy, the method comprising administering to a patient having myotonic dystrophy a therapeutically effective amount of:

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[(±)-5-[(4-[2-Methyl-2-(pyridinylamino)-
ethoxy]phenyl)methyl]-2,4-thiazolidinedione-(Z)-
2-butenedioate;
    englitazone; or
    darglitazone.
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nt tional Application No PUT/US 96/17633

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 6 A61K31/425 A61K31/41 A61K31/54

//A61K31/51,A61K31/44,A61K31/535,

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

### B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC = 6 - A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 4 572 912 A (YOSHIOKA T. ET AL.) 25 February 1986 cited in the application see the whole document	1-8
A	US 5 120 754 A (CLARK D.A.) 9 June 1992 cited in the application see the whole document	9,15
A	US 4 897 405 A (ALESSI ET AL.) 30 January 1990 cited in the application see the whole document	13
Α	US 5 132 317 A (CANTELLO ET AL.) 21 July 1992 cited in the application see the whole document	20

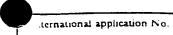
* Special categories of cited documents:  A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance.	'T' later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
<ul> <li>'E' earlier document but published on or after the international filing date</li> <li>'L' document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</li> <li>'O' document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</li> <li>'P' document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</li> </ul>	'X' document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone. 'Y' document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. '&' document member of the same patent family
Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
30 January 1997	11.02.97
Name and mailing address of the ISA  European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentiaan 2  NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo ni,  Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer  Gac, G

Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (July 1992)

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

		PC1/03 90/1/033
	auon) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	
alegory *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A .	US 4 287 200 A (KAWAMATSU ET AL.) 1 September 1981 cited in the application see the whole document	1,10,12
A	AM. J. PHYSIOL., vol. 265, no. 4Pt2, 1993, pages R726-R732, XP000616559 DUBEY ET AL.: "Pioglitazone attenuates hypertension and inhibits growth of renal arteriolar smooth muscle in rats" see the whole document	9,11
A	HYPERTENSION, vol. 24, no. 2, 1994, pages 170-175, XP000616557 ZHANG ET AL.: "Effects of pioglitazone on calcium channels in vascular smooth muscle" see the whole document	9,11
Α	HYPERTENSION, vol. 26, no. 3, 19 - 22 September 1995, page 577 XP000616558 PERSHADSINGH ET AL.: "Thiazolidinediones inhibit PDGF-induced proliferation and promote differentiation of human aortic smooth muscle cells in culture" see abstract nr P156	9,12



## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/US 96/17633

Box I	Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sneet)
This Inte	ernational Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:
:. X	Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:  Remark: Although claim(s) 1-21  is(are) directed to a method of treatment of the human/animal body, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the compound/composition.
2.	Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3.	Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).
Box II	Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)
This Int	ernational Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:
1.	As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2.	As all searchable claims could be searches within it effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3.	As only some of the required additional search less were umely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4.	No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:
Remark	The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.  No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

# INTE TIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

PCT/US 96/17633

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US-A-4572912	25-02-86	JP-C- 1604002 JP-B- 2031079 JP-A- 60051189 AU-B- 570067 AU-A- 3255984 CA-A- 1263395 DE-A- 3470742 EP-A- 0139421 IE-B- 58036	22-04-91 11-07-90 22-03-85 03-03-88 07-03-85 28-11-89 01-06-88 02-05-85 16-06-93
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Information on patent family members

vational Application No

PCT/US 96/17633 Publication Patent family member(s) Patent document Publication cited in search report date US-A-4287200 US-A-24-04-84 4444779